Hudson, New York Post Marks and Postal Markings 1794 to 1900

Whaleship Huron becalmed by Hudson 1836

Hudson, New York, named to commemorate Henry Hudson's first landing on the shores of the upper river, originated from the vision of an Association of New England Whalers, and became incorporated by an act of the New York State Assembly on April 22, 1785. By 1786, with a population of about 1500, Hudson had several wharves, four large warehouses, shops, barns and a distillery. The presence of twenty-five sea-going vessels made Hudson a major port.

To meet the burgeoning population's need for reliable mail service, the Hudson Post Office came into being, according to one source, on March 20, 1793.

The purpose of this exhibit is to provide a survey of the various postmarks, postal markings, and their possible combinations used in Hudson between 1794 (the earliest year such is recorded) and the year 1900. To this end, the exhibit has been divided into two major categories:

The first part covers the Stampless Era (1794-1850's) and the second covers those markings found on covers franked with postage stamps up to the turn of the century.